

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the subject application and claims 9-11 were withdrawn and have been canceled. Claims 1 and 5-7 have been amended. In the specification, the abstract of the disclosure has been amended. No new matter has been added by virtue of this response.

Response to Restriction Requirement

The Examiner indicated that restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-8, drawn to a serializer/deserializer (SERDES) circuit, classified in 714/738.
- II. Claims 9-11, drawn to a method of characterizing the jitter sensitivity, classified in 714/733.

Applicants elect the claims of Group I, without traverse, directed to a serializer/deserializer (SERDES) circuit. Thus, the claims that are readable on the elected species and variations for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable include: claims 1-8.

Also, upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicants wish to re-open consideration of claims to additional species and variations which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

Objection to the Specification

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to because the abstract exceeded 150 words.

Applicants have made appropriate correction to the abstract so that the abstract is now less than 150 words.

Therefore, Applicants believe that the objection to the abstract has been overcome.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 5 and 6 because of informalities.

Applicants have made appropriate corrections to claims 1, 5 and 6. Also, Applicants have provided substitute claims for claims 1-8 which have proper indentation and lines one and one-half spaced.

Therefore, Applicants believe that the objection to the claims has been overcome.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants have made appropriate corrections to claims 1 and 7. Claim 1 has been amended to delete “the” from the claim. Claim 7 has been amended to recite “the external clock” for which antecedent basis is provided in claim 1 (see claim 1, lines 10-11).

Therefore, Applicants believe that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, has been overcome and it is respectfully requested that the pending claims be passed to issuance in view of the amendments and remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants express appreciation for the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. The Examiner has indicated that claims 1 and 5-7 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

As discussed above, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 5-7 and believe that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and the objection to the claims have been overcome and it is respectfully requested that the pending claims be passed to issuance in view of the amendments and remarks.

Prior Art Made of Record

Applicants have reviewed the prior art made of record and not relied upon, US PN 5,790,563 Ramamurthy et al., US PN 6,865,222 Payne, US PN 6,215,835 Kyles, US PN 6,658,363 Mejia et al. and US PN 7,725,408 Cao et al., and believe that none of the prior art of record anticipate, teach or suggest Applicants' claims 1-8, as amended.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, all of the claims now presented are believed to be in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding objections be withdrawn and this application be passed to issue at an early date.

The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the number listed below if, in the Examiner's opinion, such a phone conference would aid in furthering the prosecution of this application. No fees are due by virtue of the present response, however, please charge Applicants' deposit account, 09-0456, for any fee that the PTO determines is due.

Respectfully Submitted,

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